



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

November 2, 2021

PROJECT NAME: Prototype Architectural Plans for State School Districts

PROJECT NUMBER: H63-N030-MJ

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Prototype architectural plans for K-12 buildings throughout the state to include elementary, middle, high school and Career Technology Education (CTE) buildings. Plans will be utilized by the participating school districts with the designer being hired by the school district to do the site-adapt of the plans. School Districts involved in this process have not yet been announced. Multiple contracts will be awarded to each A/E and multiple A/Es will be selected.

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE

A non-mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on November 10, 2021 at 10:00 am at 1429 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201, Room 102.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- A.** The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has identified \$140 million in funds to be allocated to eligible districts for school infrastructure most in need. Facility Assessment Studies will be conducted in the coming months. The construction projects will be prioritized and selected through an application process by the SCDE along with the A/Es selected for this project. Projects may include a variety of size, cost, and scope. Project may be awarded concurrently at different districts.
- B.** As stated in SCDE's proposal for the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, students and schools in SC face critical issues including the need for upgraded facilities. SCDE will set aside a portion of its ESSER ARP funds to further address capital needs of rural, poor school districts to maximize use of state appropriations, a portion of the SCDE's ARP ESSER allocation and portions of LEAs' ESSER and other local funding for facility improvements in some of the neediest districts. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) ESSER plan can be found here: <https://ed.sc.gov/policy/federal-education-programs/esser-funding-information/arp-esser-funding-information/esser-iii-plan/>
- C.** SCDE is requesting qualifications from interested Architectural firms to provide prototype designs of various schools to be constructed throughout the state of South Carolina. Projects will be for new schools that meet SCDE criteria. The SCDE wishes to contract with several firms who specialize in educational facilities planning, particularly K-12, to provide architectural services to provide consistency in the state. The construction phase of projects selected and funded by the SCDE will be managed and procured by the individual school districts.

CONSIDERATIONS

- A.** Upon award, the SCDE will require the following:
 - 1. Work will be completed throughout the state as required.
 - 2. Prototype design plans will be for various K-12 facilities, including elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and Career Technology Education (CTE) buildings.
 - 3. Firms must have capacity to work with multiple school districts on multiple projects concurrently.
 - 4. Plans will be site adapted by the design firm once construction needs are determined at the district level.
 - 5. Plans will be signed and sealed by the design firm/architect after site adaption.
 - 6. Firms will consult with SCDE during construction process, as needed.
- B.** After funding is approved, individual school districts will identify other services or recommendations deemed necessary to jump-start an effective and efficient program.
- C.** Due to the source of funds, and need to expedite the projects quickly, the SCDE will award multiple design contracts not to exceed eight (8). Each firm awarded a contract will receive more than one (1) prototype to create.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

- A.** Statement of Qualifications must include the following:
 - 1. Cover Letter - Submittals must give full name and address of the firm. The person signing the transmittal letter should show title or authority to bind the firm in the contract.
 - 2. Brief introduction to the firm, including a statement of firm's abilities and qualifications related to this project, including the number of years the firm has been in business, the location(s), and professional affiliations.
 - 3. Discussion of the firm's ability to meet the unique, concurrent scheduling demands in a fast-paced environment.
 - 4. Names of all team members that would be assigned to the project and the role they would play. Include a brief description of certifications, skills and abilities, and related experience of each team member. Please list key team members only. Specific sub-consultants are not required at this time unless the firm does not or cannot provide complete in-house services. Please state any disciplines the firm intends to subcontract.
 - 5. Firm's SWMBE status and any sub-consultant firms that are registered as Small, Minority or Women Owned Business as defined by the South Carolina Division of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification website or UCP Program.
 - 6. K-12 public school experience, including planning and budgeting of school renovations and prototype designed projects, and any other information that may be relevant.
- B.** SCDE welcomes creative and innovative submittals that combine expertise across professional disciplines in the interest of economy and a comprehensive approach to the evaluation process for capital projects.

OTHER CONDITIONS

- A.** The SCDE is not responsible for any costs incurred during the submission of proposals or interviews. The SCDE is not required to enter into a contract with any Offeror if deemed in the best interest of the SCDE.
- B.** The SCDE does not discriminate against faith-based organizations or against a bidder or offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.
- C.** All other SCDE and State of South Carolina laws, policies, and procedures shall apply. The successful firms will be required to meet additional insurance requirements and all SCDE/State policies and procedures.